

TO : All Attendees of the 2016 State Tournament for 8U

FROM: BFA Tournament Director & President

Bloomington Fastpitch Association has an established partnership with the Positive Coaching Alliance (PCA), a national non-profit developing **BETTER ATHLETES, BETTER PEOPLE** by working to provide all youth and high school athletes a positive, character-building sports experience.

The following are the models of behavior we wish to institute in our organization:

* **Double-Goal Coach**®, who strives to win while also pursuing the more important goal of teaching life lessons through sports
* **Second-Goal Parent**®, who concentrates on life lessons, while letting coaches and athletes focus on competing
* **Triple-Impact Competitor**®, who strives to impact sport on three levels by improving oneself, teammates and the game as a whole.

As part of the tournament experience, you will see banners reminding players, coaches and parents of the following mantras:

**Honor the Game**

*Honoring the game goes to the ROOTS of positive Play:*

 **Rules** Don’t bend the rules to win

 **Opponents** A worthy opponent is a gift that forces us to play to our highest potential

**Officials**  We treat officials with respect even when we disagree

**Teammates**  We never do anything that would embarrass our team on or off the field

**Self** We live up to our own standards regardless of what others do.

**ELM Tree of Mastery**

*Competitors are leaders who make themselves and their teammates better by focusing on the ELM tree.*

 **Effort** Give your best EFFORT every time

 **Learning** Constantly look to LEARN and improve

 **Mistakes** MISTAKES are OK – focus on how you deal with them

**We encourage you to institute these philosophies throughout your participation.**

Feedback is welcome - please let us know if you see any BFA teams exhibiting these behaviors well or if you encounter an individual that is in need of additional training.

**Jessica Musta** *– Tournament Director* **Karen Johnson** - *President*

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